DC-CAS: PERFORMANCE LEVEL DESCRIPTORS

Reading Grade 5

The DC-CAS is a standards-based assessment. Based on performance, each student is classified as performing at one of four performance levels: advanced, proficient, basic, or below basic. The descriptions below provide a brief summary of typical performance for each level. The skills identified in each descriptor represent, but are not all-inclusive of, the skills a student is able to demonstrate at each performance level.

Below Basic

Students are able to use vocabulary skills, such as identifying the meanings of words with multiple meanings in a simple text. Students are able to read some fifth grade informational and literary texts and can match pictures to corresponding text; complete a simple outline of key events; identify sources of information on a topic; identify cause/effect, main ideas, important details, and author's purpose in a simple text; make simple predictions based on text; and identify changes in characters in a story.

Basic

Students are able to use vocabulary skills, such as using context clues to determine meanings of multiple-meaning words and simple idiomatic expressions. Students are able to read some fifth grade informational and literary texts and can identify topic and main ideas, determine author's purpose for writing a simple persuasive text, explain minimally a conflict in a narrative, and interpret simple figurative language.

Proficient

Students are able to use vocabulary skills, such as using context clues and examples to determine implied meanings of words and identifying synonyms, antonyms, and homophones for words in context. Students are able to read fifth grade informational and literary texts and can restate key points, determine an author's purpose and position and then extend understanding beyond text, determine most important and implied main ideas, paraphrase key ideas, explain implied comparisons, identify components of a narrative, analyze characters and their relationships with each other, interpret comparisons and some figurative language, summarize events, and analyze the effects of sounds and words to uncover meaning in poems.

Advanced

Students are able to use vocabulary skills, such as using stated or implied examples to determine meanings of words, applying meanings of words to characters, identifying antonyms, and identifying meanings of common Greek and Latin roots and affixes to determine meanings of new words. Students are able to read fifth grade informational and literary texts and can identify the effect and purpose of descriptive details, paraphrase key points of a persuasive text, and explain fully with details from a text the important events of the narrative and how a conflict is resolved.

DC-CAS: PERFORMANCE LEVEL DESCRIPTORS

Mathematics Grade 5

The DC-CAS is a standards-based assessment. Based on performance, each student is classified as performing at one of four performance levels: advanced, proficient, basic, or below basic. The descriptions below provide a brief summary of typical performance for each level. The skills identified in each descriptor represent, but are not all-inclusive of, the skills a student is able to demonstrate at each performance level.

Below Basic

Students may be able to perform computations with whole numbers and fractions, perform appropriate numeric operations, not always in correct sequence, and partially solve real world problems; may be able to identify simple patterns; may be able to identify different types of angles, use scale drawings to represent data and use tools to determine measurements; may be able to determine lowest common multiples and greatest common factors; and may be able to extend a given pattern.

Basic

Students perform computations with whole numbers and fractions, perform appropriate numeric operations in correct sequence, and use strategies to solve real world problems; identify and extend simple patterns, evaluate simple expressions; identify and measure different types of angles; know the total measurement of the angles inside a triangle, and a quadrilateral; be able to find the mean (average) of a given set of numbers; use scale drawings to represent data and solve measurement problems in one or two dimensions for which the solution is easily recognized and straight forward; and use mathematical language to communicate their thinking and solutions in a clear manner.

Proficient

Students perform computations with whole numbers, fractions, and decimals (involving money); perform operations on numbers in correct sequence, create and use simple expressions to solve real world problems; identify and extend patterns, and solve simple one-step equations; use properties of lines, triangles, and rectangles to identify and determine angles in figures not drawn to scale, use scale drawings, and histograms to represent data and solve simple measurement problems; and use mathematical language to communicate their thinking and solutions in a clear manner.

Advanced

Students perform computations with whole numbers, fractions, and decimals (involving money); perform operations on numbers and parenthetical expressions in correct sequence, create and use simple expressions to model real world problems; identify and extend patterns, and solve one-step equations; use ordered pairs of numbers to graph, locate and identify points and describe a location on a grid; compute elapsed time; carry out simple conversions within a system of measurement; compare and analyze features of two- and three-dimensional shapes; list and count the number of possible combinations of objects from a given set; predict the outcomes of simple experiments; solve problems involving proportional relationships; and use mathematical language to communicate their thinking and solutions in a clear manner.